

Application No. 10/806,070

Filed: March 22, 2004

TC Art Unit: 3644

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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMSRECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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Please amend the claims of the application as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly comprising an inner box and a first inner box holder, the inner box having a bottom wall and at least one closed sidewall, such that it is at least partly fillable with water, the first inner box holder having at least one sidewall and an open lower side and upper side, the inner box being detachably coupled with the first inner box holder.

2. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, further comprising a second inner box holder having at least one sidewall and an open lower side and upper side suitable to accommodate the inner box within the second inner box holder, and positionable in relation to the inner box such that a portion of the inner box projects through ~~an opening in~~ one of the upper or lower sides of the second inner box holder, the first inner box holder being operable to support the second inner box holder when the second inner box holder rests on ~~an~~ the upper side of the first inner box holder.

3. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein the first inner box holder differs in size or shape from the second inner box holder.

4. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein the ~~sidewalls~~ at least one sidewall of the first inner

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WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN,  
GAGNEBIN & LEBOVICI LLP  
TEL. (617) 542-2290  
FAX. (617) 542-0313

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box holder ~~taper slightly towards each other~~, tapers inward from the lower side to the upper side, such that the first inner box holder is nestable within another first inner box holder.

5. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein the at least one sidewall of the inner box ~~viewed~~ tapers inward from an the upper side to the lower side, ~~in the direction of the bottom wall tapers slightly~~, such that the inner box is nestable within another inner box.

6. (Previously Presented) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein in the at least one sidewall of the first inner box holder, at least one light passage opening is included.

7-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, further comprising a second inner box holder with a lower edge, the first inner box holder also having a lower edge, wherein the lower edge of the first and second inner box holder is designed such that the first and second inner box holders placed onto each other by their lower edges form a cooperative engagement for stable stacking.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according claim 12, wherein the lower edge of ~~each the~~ first inner box holder is provided with at least one toothed provision to form the

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cooperative engagement to permit stacking of the first and second inner box holders onto each other by the lower edges in a stable manner.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein the inner box ~~is~~ can be detachably connectible-coupled with the first inner box holder when the first inner box holder is in a first relative position in relation to the inner box, and the inner box ~~is~~ can also be detachably connectible-coupled with the first inner box holder when the first inner box holder is in an inverted, second relative position in relation to the inner box.

18. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 17, wherein the inner box ~~in said first position of the first inner box holder~~ extends substantially within the first inner box holder in the first relative position, and the inner box ~~in said second position~~ extends substantially outside of the first inner box holder in the second relative position.

19. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 17, wherein the ~~assembly~~ inner box or first inner box holder is provided with engagement means which are arranged to detachably couple the first inner box holder ~~in said second position~~ to the inner box with a particular engaging force, which engaging force is greater than the a weight of the first inner box holder.

20. (Canceled)

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21. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 2, wherein the sidewalls of the first and second inner box holders ~~viewed from the bottom, taper slightly towards each other in the~~ direction of one of the lower or upper side, sides, such that the first and second inner box holders are nestable within each other.

22. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 3, wherein the sidewalls of the first and second inner box holders ~~viewed from the bottom, taper slightly towards each other in the~~ direction of one of the lower or upper side, sides, such that the first and second inner box holders are nestable within each other.

23. (Withdrawn) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

the inner box is coupled with the first inner box holder with at least one circumferential wall extending at an angle at least in part in a horizontal direction, which is connected with the inner box adjacent an upper edge of the at least one sidewall of the inner box, which circumferential wall is provided with at least one first projection which engages an upper edge adjacent the upper side of the first inner box holder;

the projection includes a wall part extending throughout the circumference of the inner box, from the circumferential wall in downward direction; and

wherein the projection engages an upper edge adjacent the upper side of the first inner box holder.

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24. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 4, wherein:

the sidewalls of the inner box, viewed from an upper side, taper slightly towards each other in the direction of the bottom wall, such that the inner box is nestable within another;

in the at least one sidewall of the first and second inner box holders, at least one light passage opening is included;

the inner box being coupled with the inner box holder with at least one circumferential wall extending at an angle at least in part in a horizontal direction, which is connected with the inner box adjacent an upper edge of the at least one sidewall of the inner box, which circumferential wall is provided with at least one first projection which engages an upper edge adjacent the upper side of the first inner box holder.

25. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

the inner box is coupled with the first inner box holder with at least one circumferential wall extending at an angle at least in part in a horizontal direction, which is connected with the inner box adjacent an upper edge of the at least one sidewall of the inner box, which circumferential wall is provided with at least one first projection which engages an upper edge adjacent the upper side of the first inner box holder;

the projection comprises a wall part extending throughout the circumference of the inner box, from the circumferential wall in downward direction; and

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the lower edge of the first inner box holder is designed such that two first inner box holders placed onto each other by their lower edges form a cooperative engagement for stable stacking.

26. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 12, wherein:

the lower edge of the first and second inner box holders is defined by two substantially parallel extending first inner box holder sidewall parts, including an inner wall part and an outer wall part, while over a first part of the circumference of the first or second inner box holder the inner wall part projects further down than the outer wall part, and over a second part of the circumference the outer wall part projects further down than the inner wall part;

the first part and the second part of the circumference are complementary, such that, with the first and second inner box holders placed onto each other by the lower edges, the first circumference part of the first inner box holder abuts against the second circumference part of the second inner box holder;

the lower edge of each of the first and second inner box holder is provided with at least one toothed provision to stack the first and second inner box holders onto each other by the lower edges in a stable manner;

the inner box and the first and second inner box holders have a substantially rectangular cross section.

27. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, further comprising:

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the inner box ~~is~~ can be detachably coupled with the first inner box holder ~~when the first inner box holder is in a first position, and the inner box is~~ can also be detachably coupled with the first inner box holder ~~when the first inner box holder is in an inverted, second position;~~

the inner box ~~in said first position of the first inner box holder~~ extends substantially within the first inner box holder in the first position, and the inner box ~~in said second position~~ extends substantially outside of the first inner box holder in the second position;

~~the assembly~~ inner box or first inner box holder is provided with engagement means which are arranged to detachably couple the first inner box holder ~~in said second position~~ to the inner box with a particular engaging force, which engaging force is greater than a weight of the first inner box holder;

a second inner box holder different from the first inner box holder, and wherein the first and second inner box holders have matching upper sides and matching lower sides; and

wherein the inner box and the first and second inner box holders have a substantially rectangular cross section.

28. (Previously Presented) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein:

the inner box is placeable in the first inner box holder; and

the inner box is detachably coupled with the first inner box holder with a circumferential projection which engages an edge of the first inner box holder.

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29. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 2, further comprising a circumferential projection on an end of the inner box which engages an edge of the second inner box holder when the portion of the inner box projects through ~~the opening one~~ of the upper or lower sides of the second inner box holder.

30. (Currently Amended) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, further comprising a second inner box holder, which is shaped and sized to be inverted and placeable on an upper side of the inner box, or on the upper side of the first inner box holder, wherein the first inner box holder is shaped and sized to be placeable atop the second inner box holder.

31. (Withdrawn) A flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein the inner box further comprises at least one circumferential wall extending at an angle at least in part in a horizontal direction, which is connected with the inner box adjacent an upper edge of the at least one sidewall of the inner box, which circumferential wall is provided with at least one first projection which engages an upper edge adjacent the upper side of the first inner box holder.

32. (Withdrawn) A flower box assembly according to claim 31, wherein the projection comprises a wall part extending throughout the circumference of the inner box, from the circumferential wall in downward direction.



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33. (Withdrawn) A flower box assembly according to claim 31, wherein the projection engages a first recess in an upper edge adjacent the upper side of the first inner box holder.

34. (Withdrawn) A flower box assembly according to claim 33, wherein the first recess in the upper edge of the inner box holder also extends throughout the circumference of the inner box holder.

35. (Withdrawn) A flower box assembly according to claim 33, wherein the circumferential wall is provided with at least one second projection which extends in upward direction from the circumferential wall and which is situated opposite the first projection and whose configuration is such that it is receivable in said first recess of a second inner box holder placed in inverted position onto the assembly of an inner box and an inner box holder.

36. (Withdrawn) A flower box assembly according to claim 12, wherein the lower edge of the inner box holder is defined by two substantially parallel extending inner box holder sidewall parts, more particularly an inner wall part and an outer wall part, while over a first part of the circumference of the inner box holder the inner wall part projects further down than the outer wall part, and over a second part of the circumference the outer wall part projects further down than the inner wall part.

37. (Withdrawn) A flower box assembly according to claim 36, wherein the first part and the second part of the circumference are complementary, such that, with two inner box holders placed

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WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN,  
GAGNERIN & LEBOVITZ LLP  
TEL. (617) 542-2250  
FAX. (617) 451-0313

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onto each other by the lower edges, the first circumference part of the first inner box holder abuts against the second circumference part of the second inner box holder.

38. (Withdrawn) A Method for handling a flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein the inner box is placed in a second inner box holder, and positioned in relation to the second inner box holder such that a portion of the inner box projects through an opening in one of the upper or lower sides of the second inner box holder, the assembly being subsequently placed with the inner box on the first inner box holder, such that the inner box extends substantially within the contours of the first inner box holder and the second inner box holder is operable to protect a content of the inner box.

39. (Withdrawn) Method according to claim 38, wherein at a suitable moment the inner box is filled with flowers.

40. (Withdrawn) Method according to claim 38, wherein onto the thus formed assembly of an inner box and a first and second inner box holder a second thus formed assembly of an inner box and a first and a second inner box holder is placed.

41. (Withdrawn) Use of a flower box assembly according to claim 1, wherein the first inner box holder is used in an inverted position to hold the inner box, wherein the first inner box holder can serve as an aid for carrying the inner box by hand.